



**ANIMAL PROTECTION & CONTROL  
ADVISORY BOARD  
Meeting Minutes  
FEBRUARY 26, 2009**

**In Attendance:**

Cheri Cornelius  
Pat Jollota  
Dr. Liz Grauer  
Ginger Burr  
Holly Blosser  
Shirley Malar  
Pat Vichas  
Sue Svendsen

**Staff:**

Linda Moorhead  
Julie Anderson

**I. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Betty May Buntin & Ed Anderson had informed the board they would not be in attendance.

**Reading and approval of the January minutes:**

January minutes were approved as written.

**II. Orders of the day:**

**Tethering Ordinance**

The following modifications were made to the rough draft tethering amendment:

- (1) *It shall be unlawful to leave a dog outdoors and unattended by use of a restraint such as a tether, chain, rope, cord, or other device used to tie an animal to a running cable or pulley system or to a stationary object:*
  - (a) *for more than ten (10) hours within a 24 hour period;*
  - (b) *during any inclement weather ~~such as snow or freezing rain;~~*
  - (c) *when the tether is less than five (5) times the length of the dog (from the tip of it's nose to the base of it's tail), or a minimum of ten (10) feet and of sufficient weight not to put undue drag on the dog;*

- (d) *when the tether is used as a restraint for more than one dog at the same time;*
- (e) *that restricts the dog's access to adequate shelter and shade;*
- (f) *that renders the dog incapable of consuming fresh food and water provided for it;*
- (g) *that gives the dog any access to any public right of way;*

*Any tether, fastener, chain, tie or other restraint permissible under this section must be attached to a properly fitted ~~body~~ harness with enough room between the collar and the dog's throat through which two (2) fingers may fit. Choke, pinch or prong type collars may not be used for tethering, fastening, chaining, or tying ~~or otherwise restraining a dog.~~*

*Nothing in this section shall prevent the tethering or otherwise restraining of a dog pursuant to the requirements of a camping or recreational area; the tethering or otherwise restraining of a dog while engaged in, or training for an activity related to use of the dog as a service dog or by any military or law enforcement agency **or legal sport training event.***

Linda Moorhead said there will be a work session to discuss the next set of code changes on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 @ 10 a.m. The anti-tethering code changes will be amongst other changes proposed by other departments. Linda said the work session is for staff to review the proposed changes with the Commissioners, it is not a public forum. Public are welcome to attend and observe. Ginger expressed an interest in attending. The Board of Commissioners adopts code changes twice a year. The next public hearing for an adoption is currently scheduled on June 16, 2009.

### **Livestock in the Urban Growth Boundary-Task Force**

Linda stated that the Urban Livestock Task Force has had six meetings. Up to this point discussions have been whether to limit the number of livestock on a parcel or have no limits and require a livestock management plan. A livestock management plan can include housing and confinement; animal husbandry; manure management; and odor and noise management. Discussions also addressed whether all livestock owners require a livestock management plan or those only affected at the time of a new development or complaint. The task force hopes to come to a decision at the next meeting and have a draft proposed for presentation to the Board of Commissioners very soon.

### **Status of propose code amendments**

Linda Moorhead reported the BOCC accepted the changes proposed by the Advisory Board to the animal codes on Tuesday, February 24, 2009, with the exception of the equine cruelty issues & cats in estrus running at large. However, they asked for clarification of a couple of items, so the hearing for adoption was rescheduled to March 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Statistical Reports**

Dr. Liz Grauer spoke of exciting news on behalf of the coalition formed by Multnomah, Clark,

Washington & Clackamas co. Euthanasia has decreased by a total of 23% among the 4 counties. Dr. Grauer believes a large portion of that is due to sick animals receiving aid & rehabilitation, thanks to the current staff.

### **III. Roundtable**

Holly Blosser encourages SWWHS to advertise more about the drop in euthanasia. There's a reputation that needs to be changed. People need to know there are a great group of people working FOR the animals.

Pat Jollota made mention of a Vancouver group who talked of having a grand opening party for the new shelter. Dr. Liz Grauer expressed much interest due to donations being low. The economy has also resulted in staff layoffs, leaving staff with twice as much work.

Ginger Burr asked Pat Jollota to please provide her with an e-mail address for the mounted police so she may contact them regarding watching their demonstration.

Linda Moorhead requested 3 members to review the spay/neuter grant applications that are due by February 28, 2009. Pat Vichas, Pat Jollota, & Ginger Burr were selected. Arrangements will be made via email to coordinate a meeting date & time.

### **IV. Public Forum**

3 separate issues were brought in front of the board.

Residents of Steamboat Landing neighborhood, Matt Hewitson, Edward & Louise Link, Diana & Herbert Tirjer, & D.A. Howden requested further modification on the definition of "premise". Linda Moorhead stated on March 3, 2009 the BOCC will vote and sign off on the original proposed modification & to make an additional change at this time would only delay this process. Pat Jollota recommended allowing Clark County to pass the definition then upon adoption by the City of Vancouver modify the verbiage of "under control" to be "leash has to be in hand" (exact verbiage to be determined at a later date).

Karen Overton addressed the group with a request to tighten the anti-tethering regulations drafted at last month's meeting. Specifically, she wanted to decrease the 10 hour tethering allowance, require a shelter with adequate bedding, and require a safety barrier between a tethered dog and the property line. She stated the barrier will deter children from interacting with tethered dogs. These requests were discussed by the members of the board and it was determined that the original proposal is adequate.

Sterling Hooten, a Vancouver resident, informed the board he recently had to remove his Nigerian dwarf goat from the city limits, per city code enforcement. Livestock is not an allowed use in the City if you have less than an acre. Due to the size and weight of Nigerian dwarf goats, he is requesting to disassociate them from regular goats. He would like to see an exception in the code to re-classify them separately like pot-bellied pigs (which are allowed). The board strongly encouraged Sterling to solicit more public support. A petition or a group of citizens

expressing an interest in a code change carries more weight with public officials than one individual.

**V. Adjournment –**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Notification will be sent advising the Board if a meeting will be scheduled in March. If not, the next meeting is April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Hearing Tribunal**

There were no written appeals.